



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:: Lau, David M. K. Division: 3728
Serial No.: 10/076,761 Examiner: Bui, Luan Kim
Filed: 02/12/2002
For: Fold-Up Storage Container

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This communication is filed in response to an Official Action dated December 12, 2003, in the above-identified patent application, that Official Action having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 12, 2004.

Election With Traverse

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner has required that the present application be restricted to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-29 and 37-40 drawn to a combination of a storage container comprising a base panel, a plurality of side panels, a roof panel and connector means, classified in Class 206, subclass 600 and others.
- II. Claims 30-36 drawn to a sub-combination of a base without any details of a storage container, classified in Class 108, subclass unknown.

In response to the foregoing requirement, applicant elects Group I, containing Claims 1-29 and 37-40, and traverses the restriction requirement based upon the following:

Claims 30-36 are directed to an improvement in storage containers, not to non-analogous art such as bridges or covers. Moreover, Claim 30 recites an improved storage container with a base having precisely the same limitations as recited for the storage

1 container of Claim 8, which is identified as being in Group I. Also, applicant is unaware of any
2 use for the base recited in Claim 30 other than as part of a storage container. Finally,
3 evaluating the patentability of Claim 8 necessitates a search of identical prior art areas to that
4 required for evaluating the patentability of Claim 30. Therefore, it is respectfully requested
5 that, in addition to claims in elected Group I, claims in non-elected Group II also be examined
6 promptly on the merits.

7 Respectfully submitted,

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